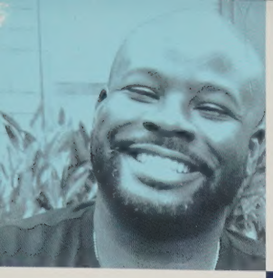
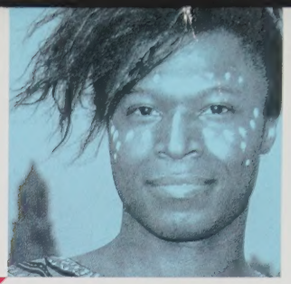
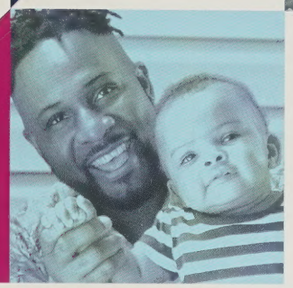
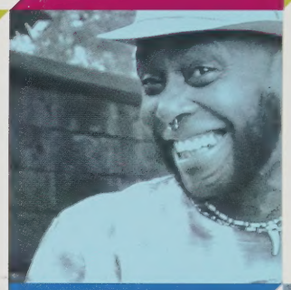
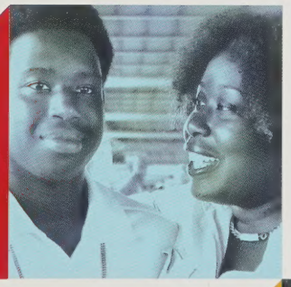





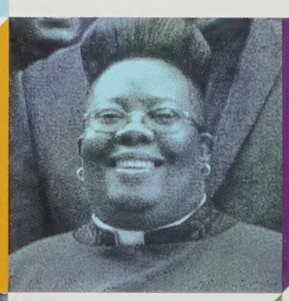


TRUTH AND TRADITION: BLACK FAMILY LOVE



FAMILY ACCEPTANCE CALENDAR

2017



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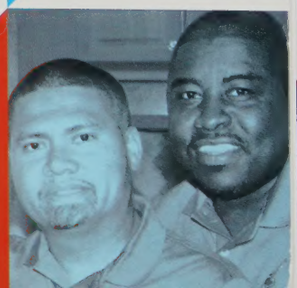

FAMILY ACCEPTANCE RESOURCES

CAMBA, Project ALY
Promotes structural change around acceptance of LGBT youth to Brooklyn-based families.
www.camba.org/programs/health/hivaidsprevention/projectaly

Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE)
National organization for children of LGBT parents.
www.colage.org

Family Acceptance Project
Family education materials, and assessment and intervention materials for providers.
www.familyproject.sfsu.edu

Family Diversity Project
A project devoted to educating the public about issues related to the diversity of family life.
www.familydiv.org

Family Equality Council
National organization advocating and supporting LGBT parents and their families.
www.familyequality.org

PFLAG
Education, advocacy and support for families and friends of LGBT people.
www.pflag.org

FOR TRANSGENDER PARENTS AND/OR PARENTS OF TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

Children's National Health System
Outpatient psychosocial consultations, group therapy for adolescents and their families, and a support group for families in the Washington, D.C. area.
www.childrensnational.org/departments/gender-and-sexuality-development-program

Gender Spectrum Education and Training
Education, resources and training to create a more supportive environment for all children.
www.genderspectrum.org

Transfamily
Support for transgender people, their parents and families.
www.transfamily.org

Trans Griot
News, commentary, history and creative writing from an African-American transwoman.
www.transgriot.blogspot.com

Trans People of Color Coalition
Empowers the community by building a pipeline of advocates by and for trans people of color.
www.transpoc.org

Trans Youth Equality Foundation
Education and support for transgender and gender-nonconforming children, youth and their families.
www.transyouthequality.org

FOR LGBTQ CHILDREN AND TEENS

Antijen
Support site for transgender youth. Includes sample letters to parents and educational articles.
www.antijen.org

GLSEN—Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network
Works with schools to ensure that transgender, gay and lesbian students are not harassed or bullied.
www.glsen.org

Hetrick Martin Institute, New York City
A social services agency for queer and transgender youth in New York. Hosts the Harvey Milk High School, a public school for LGBTQ youth.
www.hmi.org

SMYAL, Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League, Washington, DC
A social services organization for lesbian, gay and transgender youth.
www.smyal.org

HEALTH

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center, New York City
Health care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities regardless of ability to pay.
www.callen-lorde.org

Center of Excellence for Transgender Health, San Francisco
Access to affirming health care services for trans and gender-variant communities.
www.transhealth.ucsf.edu

Feminist Women's Health Center, Atlanta
Affirmative environment health care to gender-variant and intersex people.
www.feministcenter.org

Fenway Health, Boston
Health care, education, research and advocacy for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.
www.fenwayhealth.org

Gender Management Services Clinic, Children's Hospital, Boston
All-purpose clinic that provides health care for transgender and intersex children.
www.childrenshospital.org/research-and-innovation

Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago
Support services including drop-in groups, mental health, medical care and hormonal treatment for the transgender community.
www.howardbrown.org

Lyon-Martin Health Services, San Francisco
Health care to women, lesbians and transgender people regardless of ability to pay.
www.lyon-martin.org

Mazzoni Center, Philadelphia
Targets the health care needs of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.
www.mazzonicenter.org

Sex, Etc.
On a mission to improve teen sexual health across the country.
www.sexetc.org

Whitman-Walker Clinic, Washington, D.C.
Provides services to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities.
www.whitman-walker.org

ONLINE RESOURCES AND HOTLINES

Advocates for Youth
Help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health.
www.advocatesforyouth.org/

The Asian Pride Project: Family is Still Family
Share your story project of love and acceptance for LGBTQ children
www.Asianprideproject.org

California Youth Crisis Line
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
800-843-5200

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
Crisis prevention and emotional support helpline. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
1-800-273-TALK

The Trevor Project
Provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ teens and young adults.
866-488-7386
www.thetrevorproject.org

Youth Guardian Services
Support groups for LGBT youth (ages 13-17, 17-21, and 21-25), and youth with an LGBT family member.
www.youth-guard.org/youth/

READING MATERIAL FOR PARENTS

Gender Born, Gender Made: *Raising Healthy Gender-Nonconforming Children,* Diane Ehrensaft

Helping Your Transgender Teen: *A Guide For Parents,* Irwin Krieger

The Transgender Child: *A Handbook for Families and Professionals,* Stephanie A. Brill

Two Spirits, One Heart: *A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance,* Marsha Aizumi

READING MATERIALS FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Beyond Magenta: *Transgender Teens Speak Out,* Susan Kuklin

How Beautiful the Ordinary: *12 Stories of Identity,* Michael Cart

Large Fears, Myles Johnson and Kendrick Daye

My Princess Boy, Cheryl Kilodavis

When Kayla Was Kyle, Amy Fabrikant

FAITH COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries
Multi-denominational group of primarily African American Christian leaders and laity.
www.radicallyinclusive.com/the-purpose-of-the-fellowship

National LGBT Task Force, The Institute for Welcoming Resources
www.welcomingresources.org/multifaithlinks.htm

LEGAL HELP AND ADVOCACY

Lambda Legal's Help Desk
Information and resources regarding discrimination related to sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and HIV status. In English and Spanish.
1-866-542-8336

National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC)
Civil rights organization dedicated to empowering Black LGBT people.
www.nbjc.org

GREETINGS!

Lambda Legal is honored to present this beautiful Black Family Acceptance Calendar 2017.

The beauty of life is that we get to share it with others. Our first human experience is of being born into this world and, at that very moment, encountering a relationship, a bond and a natural love for the one we lay eyes on. This is the very start of the greatest creation–family. I love the idea of family and I am fortunate to have the great support from my family and my community. I'm a Black bisexual woman; and my wonderful partner and I are the proud parents of our sixteen-year-old son. We are a blended family.

No matter who we are, how we identify, who we love and how we express ourselves to the world, we are born to love, to be loved, to nurture and share our wonderful gifts and talents with the world and more importantly with each other. We were not born to be mistreated, unloved and abused.

People who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) may face harmful treatment when they share who they are with their family members and their community. Studies have shown that even a little bit of acceptance of your LGBT family or community member can go a long way towards keeping a family together. It is my hope that this calendar will encourage more families to increase their acceptance and show love and support to a family or a community member. Still acceptance is not a destination, it's a journey.

Geneva, right, pictured with her partner, Tamarra and her son, Elian.

"Truth and Tradition: Black Family Love" is all about the celebration and beauty of family acceptance and support and its diversity within Black families.

Besides the families we are born into, family bonds are created in many different ways. Our featured beautiful Black families are variations of nuclear families, extended families, blended families, single-parent families, adoptive and foster families, step-families, chosen families and faith families.

No matter how families are created or come together, families should not spew violence, hate and fear to a loved one. The most important thing is that a family is filled with acceptance, love and support especially for a family member who identifies as LGBT.

At times, the very existence of LGBT people is challenged at home, in the law and in society as a whole. But we can do better to show our support. At Lambda Legal, we believe that making the case for equality begins at home. Family acceptance turns into community acceptance, with the full recognition of our civil rights. Join us in this journey towards acceptance with this publication.

Thank you to the Family Acceptance Project for their pioneering research, which helped inform this project. A special thank you to all of the families featured in our first Black family acceptance calendar. You all showed up so willing and wonderful to share your family acceptance journey with others.

Geneva Musgrave
Diversity and Inclusion Program Educator
Lambda Legal

TREE AND CARLTON'S FAMILY

"Blood does not make you family. Everything is transitional, nothing lasts forever. So, enjoying the moment, enjoying the connection while you have it, is more important than any blood line. My partner, Carlton, and I love growing our family together." –TREE

Tree and Carlton, center and right, with their adopted and foster children, left to right, Stephen, Angel, Camille, Forest, Sky and their dog, Timberland.

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day	2 New Year's Day (observed)	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (observed)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Lunar New Year
29	30	31				

Treat your LGBTQ child with respect, and others will follow. Parents should treat their LGBTQ child the way they would like others to treat them.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know your rights about protecting your assets in life:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/planning-protecting-your-assets
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

ALLY'S FAMILY

"In my house, we are seen for who we are and not the way the world wants us to be. We are loved and accepted just the way we are." –ALLY

Ally, center, with her ballroom family, left to right, Leryia and Martez, House of Hua Mulan.

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7 National Black HIV/ AIDS Awareness Day	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	BLACK HISTORY MONTH TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH			

Don't block access to LGBT friends, events and resources. They can make a huge difference.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about HIV Testing:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/hiv-testing

For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

"We don't have to be narrowly defined. So all of our children can present as they wish and define as they wish. It doesn't always make sense for people and if they don't make sense it's okay as long as it's the way you feel inside. That's what we teach our children." –JODIE

Jodie and Joe, with their children, left to right, Georgia, Cassius, Penelope, who is transgender, and Othello.

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 National Women/Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	11
12 Daylight Saving Time begins	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 International Transgender Day of Visibility	

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Respect the name and gender pronouns that family members use; they best reflect who they are.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about being a trans youth:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/trans-youth

For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

NAQUAN'S FAMILY

"Our son is a blessing and we honor our blessing by loving and accepting him, no matter what." –JOANNE AND LEVILLE

Naquan, third from the left, with, left to right, his father, Leville, his fiancé, Jason, and his mother, Joanne.

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 April Fools' Day
2	3	4	5	6	7 World Health Day	8
9 Palm Sunday	10 Passover begins	11	12	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter	17	18 Tax Day	19	20	21 Day of Silence	22 Earth Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Don't exclude LGBT people from family and family activities. Include them.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about protecting yourself in your relationship:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/planning-relationship
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

"Being myself is the most beautiful and powerful gift that I can offer my child, and he follows my example." –SHONDA

Shonda, a single, lesbian mother and Lambda Legal employee, with her son, Jamie.

MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Teacher Appreciation Day	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia	18	19	20 Armed Forces Day
21	22	23	24	25 World MS Day	26	27 Ramadan begins
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

Don't tell a family member that you are ashamed of them or how they look. Be proud to have them in your family.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about protecting your children:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/planning-protecting-your-children
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

CHRISTOPHER AND SHELTON'S FAMILY

"Our family's experience is no different than others. We have the same struggles and triumphs that make our family valid." – CHRIS AND SHELTON

Christopher and Shelton (former Lambda Legal Plaintiffs), center and right, with their son, Jonathan.

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth	20	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24
25 Eid al-Fitr	26 Anniversary of Legalization of Marriage for Same-Sex Couples	27 National HIV Testing Day	28 Stonewall Uprising Anniversary	29	30	

LGBT PRIDE MONTH
PTSD AWARENESS MONTH
CANDY MONTH

Don't exclude same-sex couples who have children. Be friendly and kind.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about same-sex spousal and partner benefits at work:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/workplace-benefits

For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

"My family is mine. I have to take care of my family. I have to make sure that my family is all right. My family is everything to me." –MARLOW

Left to right, Marlow, a man who is transgender, with his sister, Stephanie, his wife, Natalie, and his four daughters, Amber, Ty'Asia, Crystal and LaAsha.

JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Parents' Day	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	SOCIAL WELLNESS MONTH				

Don't verbally harass or call someone names because of their LGBT identity. Affirm who they are.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights in court:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/in-court-faq
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

SAUNDRA AND ALICIA

"For 28 years, we have been the epitome of partnership. We work well together. We are each other's best friend. Together we create long lasting memories filled with laughter." –ALICIA AND SAUNDRA

Saundra and Alicia, former Lambda Legal plaintiffs, and their dog Blu.

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Senior Citizens' Day	22	23	24	25	26 Women's Equality Day
27	28	29	30	31		

NATIONAL WATER QUALITY MONTH
NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

Truly believe that your LGBT family member can have a happy future as an adult.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about preparing wills and trusts:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/planning-wills-trusts
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

MICHELLE'S FAMILY

"I allow my children to be themselves and I allow my children to express themselves. As a bisexual woman living with HIV, my children accept all of me and who I am." –MICHELLE

Left to right, Michelle, with her daughter, Raven, her son, Rondell, and her grandson, Royal.

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Eid al-Adha	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 National Grandparents' Day	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14	15 National POW/MIA Recognition Day	16 Stepfamily Day
17	18 Constitution Day Citizenship Day	19	20 Rosh Hashanah begins	21	22	23 Celebrate Bisexuality Day
24	25	26	27	28	29 Yom Kippur begins	30

NATIONAL HISPANIC AND LATINO HERITAGE MONTH BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15TH
NATIONAL ALCOHOL & DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

If a family member discloses vital information about who they are, the family should use this as an opportunity to show unconditional love and support.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights if you're living with HIV:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/hiv-discrimination-workplace
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

CHANTAL'S FAMILY

"I am a lesbian mother and I love my daughter for who she is and who she loves. She is perfect." –CHANTAL

Chantal and her daughter, Aaliyah, who is also a lesbian.

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Sukkot begins	5	6	7
8	9 Indigenous People's Day	10	11 National Coming Out Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Spirit Day	21
22	23	24	25	26 Intersex Awareness Day	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				

NATIONAL HISPANIC AND LATINO HERITAGE MONTH ENDS OCTOBER 15TH
LGBT HISTORY MONTH
BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Don't pressure your child to be more (or less) masculine or feminine. Encourage your child to be who they are.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights for family and friends of LGBTQ youth:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/youth-info-for-families
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

RYAN'S FAMILY

"Ryan is our brother. It is very important to us as siblings that we maintain our close relationship. We really enjoy cooking and just hanging out with each other." –CRYSTAL AND RONALD

Left to right, Ryan, a Lambda Legal employee who is transgender, with his sister, Crystal, and his brother, Ronald.

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Transgender Day of Resilience	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH TRANSGENDER AWARENESS MONTH	

Don't blame a family member when they are discriminated against because of their LGBT identity. Fight for their rights.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about public restrooms if you're transgender:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights/article/trans-restroom-access-rights
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

THE RIVERS OF LIVING WATER CONGREGATION

"I know who I am in God. This church is a place where I can come and be accepted by all, and most importantly by God."

–THE RIVERS OF LIVING WATER CONGREGATION, The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries Affiliate

Pastor Vanessa, center, with her wife Pastor Twanna Gause. to her left, with the Rivers of Living Water Congregation.

DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 World AIDS Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Chanukah begins	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa begins	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	AIDS AWARENESS MONTH					

Don't tell someone that God will punish them because they are LGBT. God loves and accepts us as we are.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

Know Your Rights about life and financial planning:
www.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights#life-amp-financial-planning
For more information, visit lambdalegal.org or contact our Legal Help Desk at 1-866-542-8336

Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.

Lambda Legal
making the case for equality

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